# DATA INTERCHANGE FORMATS

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HLA Tool Interactions via DIFs
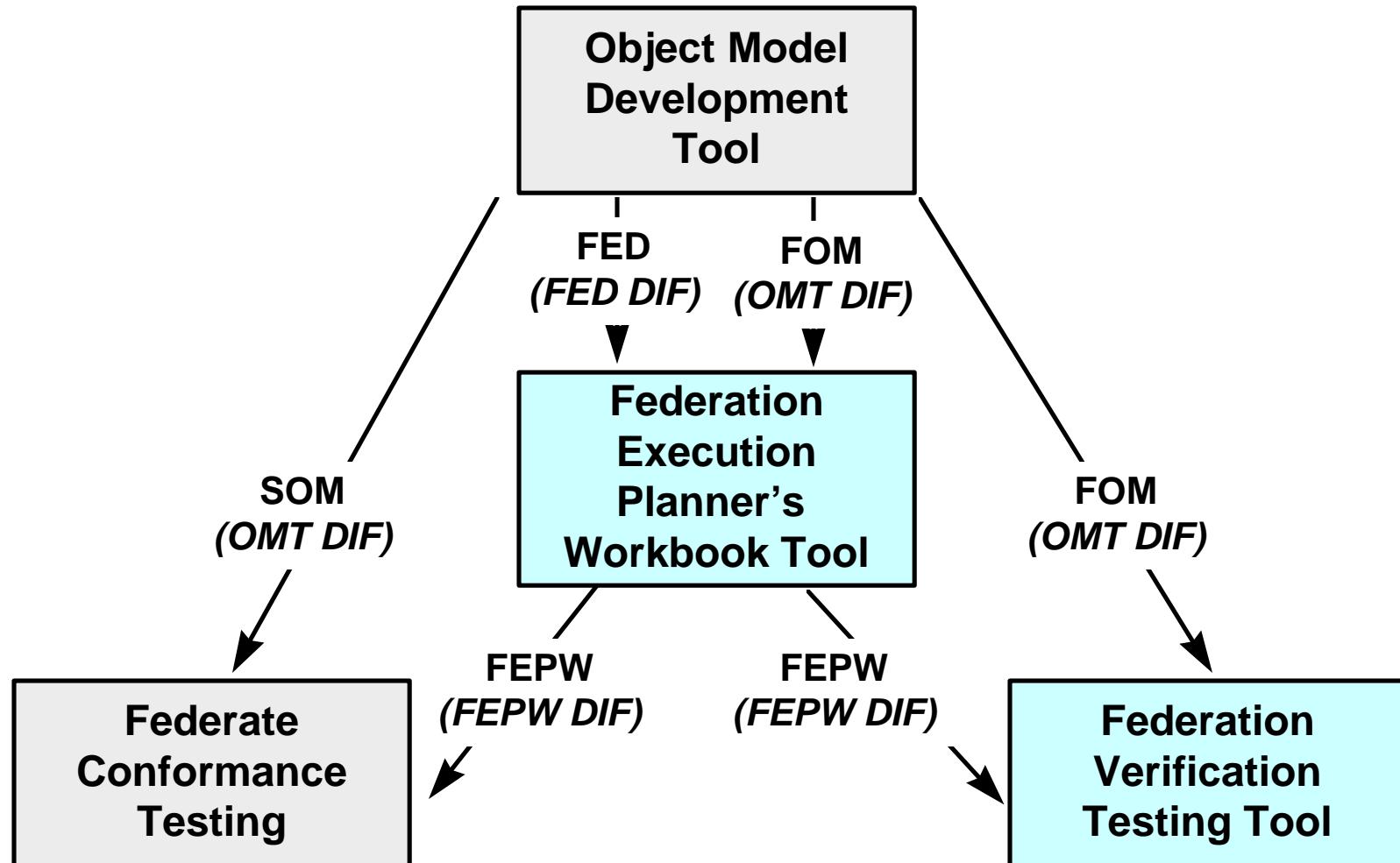
Data Interchange Formats

- **A DIF is a specification of the semantics and structure of data to be interchanged between multiple data producers and multiple data consumers**

- **HLA DIFs are Backus Naur Form (BNF) descriptions of delimited ASCII text**

- **HLA DIFs support the interchange of object model information among HLA tools**

- **HLA DIFs provide an open specification for development of new object model tools which will integrate with the existing tool set**

FEPW DIF Documentation Contents

- **Background - purpose for the FEPW DIF**
- **Definition of BNF constructs used in the DIF definition**
  - **"Base" BNF constructs - terminals, non-terminals, production symbols, selection, etc.**
  - **Extended BNF constructs - defined non-terminals, optional items, repetition**
- **DIF contents definition**
- **Consistency rules (which cannot be expressed in BNF)**
- **Glossary of selected non-terminals**
- **Example FEPW DIF file**
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FEPW DIF Contents

- **Mirrors the current FEPW Excel spreadsheet**
- **For a federation execution**
  - **Federation execution summary information**
  - **Host information**
  - **LAN information**
  - **RTI services used**
  - **Cross references**
    - **Object attribute update/reflect responsibilities**
    - **Object attribute transfer/accept agreements**
    - **Interaction parameter initiate/receive agreements**
  - **Data representation information**
- **For each federate**
  - **Object class/attribute update/subscription information**
  - **Interaction class/parameter send information**
- **A valid FEPW DIF file contains any or all of the above contents**

FEPW DIF Development Process

Tool Devel.

| Define Reqts. | → | Design Tools | → | Develop Tools | → | Modify Tools |

→ Alpha Test → Beta Test

DIF Devel.

| Develop Strawman | → | Produce Development Draft | → | Modify Development Draft |

DIF Product

Strawman   Development Draft   Interim Drafts   Public Draft   Baseline
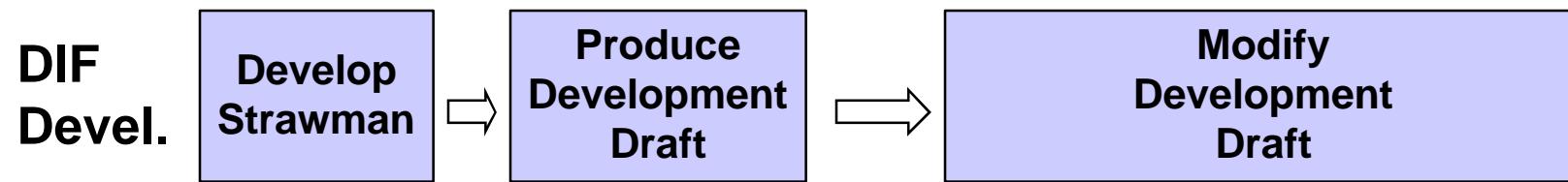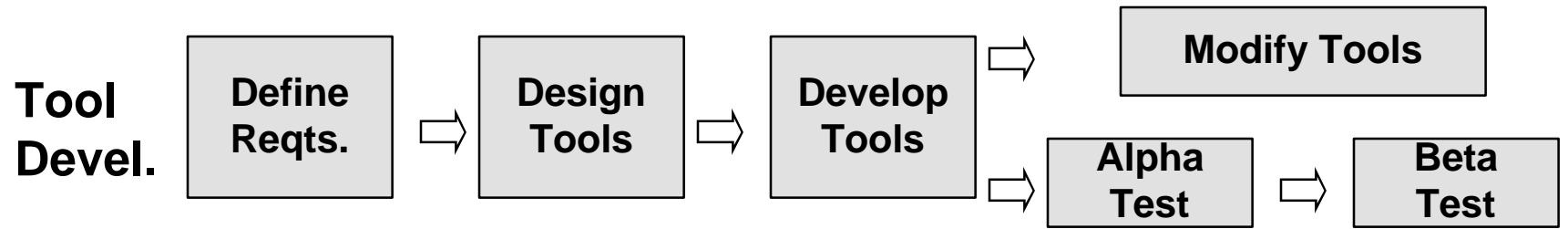
Feedback

Please send any comments/questions/suggestions/… to Bob Lutz at:

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